

LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

P R O C E E D I N G S

BOARD MEETING

Thursday, November 2, 1972

2:00 p. m.

J. G. JONES, CHAIRMAN

Ramada Inn, Azalea Room
Alexandria, Louisiana

P R O C E E D I N G S

. . . The Board Meeting of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission convened at 2:00 p. m. on Thursday, November 2, 1972, at the Ramada Inn, Alexandria, Louisiana, Jerry G. Jones, Chairman, presiding

PRESENT WERE:

J. G. Jones, Chairman

H. C. Wright, Vice-Chairman

J. Thompson

H. C. Luttrell

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~~CHAIRMAN JONES:~~ The meeting will come to order. This is a special meeting of the commission. I think we have two items of business.

MR. THOMPSON: I'd like to make a motion that this year, on an experimental basis, that we open the entire Evangeline Management Area for dog hunting, fox, all dogs; all sporting dogs, including fox hunters.

THE CHAIRMAN: You've heard the motion by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Luttrell. Is there any discussion? All those in favor say, Aye. Wait a minute. Anybody want to say anything? No. O. K. Opposed. We have one other item of business.

MR. LUTTRELL: I'd like to make a motion that we have a feasibility study made or whatever is necessary to turn the excess clearwater Catahoula Lake through Saline Bayou and Saline Lake and flush out the muddy water out of Saline Lake, Larto Lake and so forth.

CHAIRMAN JONES: You've heard the motion by Mr. Luttrell. Seconded by Mr. Wright. Is there any discussion? As I understand your motion, you want our department to make an engineering study to determine the feasibility of doing that.

MR. THOMPSON: Correct. The only word I'd like to add to it is expedite.... Expedite.

THE CHAIRMAN: Expedite.

MR. THOMPSON: Yes, expedite. In a hurry.

MR. LUTTRELL: I think it can be done. From my personal knowledge and from my absolute knowledge of the lay of the land, it could be done very cheaply and very easily, and we'll save, not only Saline Lake; and we'll save Larto Lake.

MR. THOMPSON: Clay, I see some people taking notes so that they will know a little more of what we are talking about, you want to go ahead into the elevations of

MR. LUTTRELL: Yes.

MR. THOMPSON: Gestimated elevations of it.

MR. LUTTRELL: Little Saline Lake, I mean Bayou, has been the first bayou that when the water on Catahoula Lake reaches a certain level, about a 36 foot level, would spill over and go into Saline Bayou. Now there's a ridge that prevents that and that the Lake is to be kept at a 34 foot level by simply opening up this Bayou over the ridge and putting in a weir that would control it. The excess water from Little River and it's tributaries would go through Saline Bayou into Saline Lake instead of going back through the canal into Black River and that's all I'm asking, that the part of that Bayou that is now holding back the water at the level be opened, so that the excess water can go into Saline Bayou.

MR. THOMPSON: Let me just add one thing, clarification of it. This wouldn't affect the control structure presently situated in that it would be closed at all times when the water was surplus above 34 whatever elevation was set on, but when we want to draw the lake down to zero so that the millet could grow, that the locks then would be in operation and then would be sucked out and we would dry the lake up.

MR. LUTTRELL: There would be no water going down Saline at that time, you'd lose nothing, it would not affect the shooting on Catahoula Lake at all.

MR. THOMPSON: It really wouldn't affect anything except, hopefully, that it would clear up some of, if not all of the mud in Saline.

MR. LUTTRELL: Correct.

MR. THOMPSON: It's really a shot in the dark, but it's a doggoned good shot.

THE CHAIRMAN: You've heard the motion. Is there any discussion? All those in favor say Aye. Opposed. None. Any other business? Anyone have any other business with the commission? I notice in the back of the room is Jimmie Walker, former member of the Commission. Hi, Jimmie, how are you doing? I notice you don't have your duck hunting clothes on.

MR. WALKER: No, I'm going out tonight.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any other business?

Someone from the audience: Inaudible.

THE CHAIRMAN: Would you please come up to the mike.

From the audience: I'm Tommy Rainsley.... One thing that kind of worries the fellows about this thing, we're tickled to death about you all allowing us to hunt in there this year with our dogs, but now what about next year? We don't want to be hasseling with you all every year.

MR. THOMPSON: The best thing for you to do right now is just let that sleeping dog lie.

MR. RAINSLEY: Okay, then.

THE CHAIRMAN: You noticed he called it experimental. You know what experiment means. If it works, fine, okay; if it doesn't work, okay.

MR. RAINSLEY: I was concerned about it.

MR. LUTTRELL: You all do some good policing out there.

THE CHAIRMAN: O. K. Any other business? Do I hear a motion we adjourn?

Meeting is adjourned.

...Thereupon, 2:06 o'clock p.m., Thursday, November 2, 1972, the meeting was adjourned. . . .